Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

A/B, 5, 246/1

TO : Chief, Technical Branch, Security Office DATE: November 1954

FROM : Chief, Contact Division, CO

SUBJECT: Case [redacted] H-B/3

REFERENCE A: [redacted] 20 May 1954 and 17 September 1954 memoranda,

H-B/6

[redacted] B/6 Our field representative reports that [redacted] gave him a long, interesting and bewildering interview. We have tried to reduce [redacted] technically complex illustrations into the following non-sense:

a. He has never used drugs in connection with psycho-therapy, although he volunteered that his boss had written a paper on it and is now getting us a copy.

b. His only publication thus far on hypnosis is [redacted] B/3 [redacted] We should appreciate it if you would see that his name as source of that report is closely held.

c. [redacted] began to work on hypnosis about two years ago, and is currently associated in it with [redacted] H-B/6 [redacted] neither of whom he knows. We have an Approved (Caution) on both [redacted] clearances.

d. These three men are now working toward a paper on [redacted] theme to be given next [redacted] before the [redacted]

3. As we understand it, there are three aspects of hypnosis that [redacted] is concerned with, and above these is the question of how hypnosis can be used therapeutically. The three are:

a. Determine whether the symptoms of regression or progression established during hypnosis reflect real or imaginary experiences. Some doubts which they are real; some do not. Real or imaginary, can the usual clinical medical approach of establishing a symptom and then working backwards to find the cause be reversed through hypnosis? [redacted]

[redacted]

b. Determine the effect of emotions on the subject under hypnosis. This angle will be the subject of some future paper.

c. Determine the possible uses of hypnotic dreams. This appears to be the field in which [redacted] is most interested. He said that the question is to whether hypnosis might be used to reverse the usual clinical procedure may be somewhat answered by the performance of hypnotic dreams. He explained, with numerous examples of how a subject can actually be made to dream along the lines suggested while under hypnosis, and that this might indicate the feasibility of starving with suggestion and producing a subsequent symptom. 3/6

3. We must emphasize that [redacted] very much of a scientist. He feels that the work he is doing is far too experimental to allow for any broad statements. He illustrated this by comparing it with a chemical reaction wherein the known elements produce an expected result that can be proven. He said that in the study of hypnosis there are interesting indicators, but that it is extremely difficult to be positive because of the many variables that influence results. He feels that [redacted] will do his best to answer, or give us leads to, any requirements we have him. However, we urge that [redacted] requirements be withheld until you have reviewed both [redacted] and [redacted] copy of which we forwarded to you on 11 October 1954. 3/3

4. May we have your comments?

A [redacted]

[redacted]